



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: OMURA, Yoshiharu

SERIAL NO.: 10/038,278

FILED: January 4, 2002

TITLE: CAN HAVING A COVER WITH A STAY-ON TAB

REMARKS ON SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In this preliminary amendment, please consider the following remarks in conjunction with the amendments to the above-identified application as follows:

REMARKS

The present Supplemental Preliminary Amendment has been entered for the purpose of correcting certain grammatical and idiomatic inconsistencies due to the translation of the present English language patent application from the original Japanese priority documents. Applicant seeks to correct the translation as quickly as possible. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Applicant respectfully requests that the present Amendment be entered prior to an initial Official Action on the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

9-25-02

Date

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES in the PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of the present application, and prior to an initial Official Action on this matter, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE TITLE

On Page 1, the title has been amended as follows:

CAN HAVING A COVER WITH A STAY-ON TAB

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IN THE CLAIMS

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In Claim 1, the claim has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A can having a cover comprised of a stay-on tab, said stay-on tab being attached to an upper surface of said can cover by a supporting means protruding upward from said can cover, said can cover being comprised of, under one end of said stay-on tab, scores for inducing rupture, said one end of said stay-on tab being adapted to push downward a portion surrounded by said scores so as to form a content take-out hole when another end of said stay-on tab is pulled-upward, said supporting means being connected to a central portion of said stay-on tab, said central portion of said stay-on tab being continued to said one end of said stay-on tab and separated from said another end of said stay-on tab so that said another end can be pulled upward from said upper surface of said can cover while said central portion remains in close contact with said upper surface of said can cover,

wherein said one end and said another end of said stay-on tab are respectively inclined upward from said upper surface of said can cover so that there are distances between said one end of said stay-on tab and said upper surface of said can cover and between said another end of said

stay-on tab and said upper surface of said can cover, the distance between said another end of said stay-on tab and said upper surface of said can cover being made larger when said one end of said stay-on-tab is pushed downward toward said upper surface of said can cover.

In Claim 2, the claim has been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) A can having a cover with a stay-on tab as claimed in claim 1, wherein said supporting means protruding upward from said can cover is comprised of an elliptic or polygonal section so as to prevent said stay-on tab from being turned in a horizontal direction.

In Claim 3, the claim has been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) A can having a cover with a stay-on tab as claimed in claim 1, wherein an auxiliary supporting means protruding upward from said can cover is provided beside said supporting means, said auxiliary supporting means being connected to said central portion of said stay-on tab, said auxiliary supporting means passing through said central portion and protruding upward from said central portion.

In Claim 4, the claim has been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) A can having a cover with a stay-on tab as claimed in claim 3, wherein an upper end of said auxiliary supporting means is spread so as to form a head.

In Claim 5, the claim has been amended as follows:

5. (Amended) A can having a cover with a stay-on tab as claimed in claim 1, wherein said can cover is comprised of wrinkles so as to prevent said can cover from being swelled upward by the expansion of the content of the can.

In Claim 6, the claim has been amended as follows:

6. (Amended) A can having a cover with a stay-on tab as claimed in claim 1, wherein said central portion of said stay-on tab is separated from said another end of said stay-on tab by cutting the material along the periphery of said central portion and folding the cut edge of the material back to said another end of said stay-on tab.